DISSERTATIO MEDICA

DE

PHANTASMATIS IN ÆGROTOS

POTENTIA.

A

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PREFACE.

IT had been my intention to have become a Doctor of Physic at Edinburgh, but a two years residence at that University, taught me the impropriety of continuing any longer at a School of Medicine, where much of what I heard was only worth forgetting, and where ignorance seemed to be no obstacle in obtaining a Diploma; I therefore went to Glasgow, because I had been informed, that the examinations held there, were better calculated to try the ability, than to shelter the dullness of the candidate.

This Thesis was accordingly to have been published, as an inaugural dissertation, at Glasgow, where I was done into a Doctor of Medicine; but the very

worthy and respectable Professors of that University objected to it; one, because he was unable to perceive the drift of the Greek quotations, a language which he, himself, was never guilty of using, either in conversation, or in writing; and the other, because, as he said, though it was not badly written, yet it went, directly, to eradicate the foolish forms, and farcical dullness of physical jargonizing, which, at present, could not be borne at any medical university, as they all owed their very existence, and safety, to meer form and custom, and ceremony, now, rendered venerable by time, and sanctioned by antiquity; though, in themselves, replete with absurdity, and abounding in folly. As these objections were unanswerable, I withdrew my Thesis, and have published it at Edinburgh, that the world, at large, may judge, whether it did, or did not merit that reception, which it had the honour of experiencing from the Doctor-fabricators at Glasgow.

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UT sententia Burkii, quod rem coarctat non explicat definitio, mihi maximè arridet, in hâc de imaginatione disceptatiuncula, nequidem, angustos intra definitionis cancellos me ipsum cohibebo, sed, ut quod significare cupio satis intelligatur sine ullo ad explicandum verbum inepto tentamine, quod rem caliginosiorem non clariorem reddere posit, procerto habebo. Nimirum, utcunque de quovis negotio ut metaphysicè specularer adducor, narratio infa-

usta, quam, me puero, audivi, cursum detinet. In provinciali magnæ Britanniæ oppido lunam per telescopium ab inspiciendo, et, aliquoties, de hujus planetæ habitatoribus, aëre, solo, moribus, de comitatis instructione, cum multis aliis, quæ nunc perscribere longum est, loquendo, et disserendo suam replevit crumenam, et plebem docuit et ornavit philosophus pedestris et errabundus.

Hæc diu manserat exhibitio, et ut multum diutius maneret, minitabatur, sed, quam celerrime, abrupta fuit ab agricolâ, qui, vivos ungues rodens, et caput scabens impexum, clâmitavit, cum summâ gravitâte et sagacitatè, " seipsum quantùm hunc cum om-" nibus vitris ad lunam tantùm appropin-" quare." Ut a veritate, et non ad verum, ducit speculationis desiderium valdè suspicor: " ci renda impazienti nella lenta medita-" zione, e ci spinga alla lusinghevole carriera " della fantasia, piuttosto che a qualla del dis-" cernimento ; onde v è dubbio che divenir

"possiamo più facilmente decidenti che ragi-
"onatori, piu entusiasti che saggi, pui vision-
"arii che Filosophi." Hinc hominibus, ut in mundum suas trudcrent ineptias tanta inest facilitas, et, quacunque nosmet-ipsos vertimus et circumspicimus, novis theorìis, et speculationibus, et somniis, et visionibus, et hypothesibus, et phantasmatibus, obruimur et inundamur.

"Bienheureux Scudéri dont la fertile plume
"Peut tous les mois sans peine enfanter un volume;
"Tes écrits, il est vrai, sans art et languissans,
"Semblent etre formés en depit du bon sens:
"Mais ils trouvent pourtant, quoi qu' on en puisse dire,
"Un marchand pour les vendre, et des sots pour les lire."

Et, Deus illis benefaxit, a modo maximè bardo, et molesto, et diuturno, quo utuntur, quandocunque res effundunt futiles, medicinam claudicare faciunt: "Δει μεν μη τους πολλους των
"εξηγητων μιμουμενους, ξηρον και ελλιπη τον τοπον
"διαλειπειν. μηδε ωσπερ ετερους, αμηχανον όσην απε-
"ραντολογιαν επεισαγειν. Αλλα δει αυτο μονον το

" προκειμενον συγγραμα προσησαμενες, υπ' οψιν αγειν
" τοις σχολαζεσι την προθεσιν, διερευνομενες το ειδος,
" την υλην, τα δογματα συνηρημονως, την διολε τε
" συγγραματος διηκεσαν των λογων υποθεσιν. Ουτω
" γαρ αν τοις ακεεσι γενοιτο καταφανες τοπαν βε-
" λημα των συγγραμματων."

Itaque

" Che tempo e ormai, ch'ai capi voti o macri
" Di senno, si soccorri con l'ampolla."

Nam, plus justo sui temporis consumpserunt medici, et alios in errorem traxerunt, ab inutilibus et nimis subtilibus, inquisîtionibus in res futiles et ineptas; ut

" Utrum chimera bombinans in vacuo pos-
" sit comedere secundas intentiones?" aut

" An præter esse reale actualis essentiæ sit
" aliud esse necessarium quo res actualitér ex-
" istat?"

Et multa alia, quæ similis sapientiæ olent. Sed, tam parva lucis scientiæ inter majorem humani generis partem portio diffunditur, ut "Illos pro literatis plerique laudandos dux-"erunt, quum illi, næniis quibusdam anilibus "occupati, inter Milesias Punicas Apuleii, et "ludicra literaria consenescerent." Ast omnes, qui suas perdunt facultates, et alios decipiunt, in contemptu et odio habendi sunt; et tales sunt nostri omnes medici speculatores, qui verba sed non sensum, sonum sed non ideam nobis offerunt; "*αυτȣ αποδȣναι, σοφισματα ευ-"ρισκȣσι, και παραγραφας, και προφασεις, πονηροτατοι "ανθρωπων αδικωτατοι.*"

Meherclè, tam ingeniosè non animo sunt percipiendi, ut "magis sit hasce contortiones orationis, quam signorum ortus obitusque perdiscere." "*Ἤδη γαρ μοι σκοτος αγνοιας απαντα, και απατη "μελαινα, και απειρος πλανη, και ατελης φαντασια, "και ακαταληπτος αγνοια. Ταυτα τοινον διεξηλθον, "βȣλομενος δειξαι την εν τοις δογμασιν ȣσαν αυτων "εναντιοτητα, και ως εις υπειρον αυτοις και αοριστον*

" προεισιν η ζητησις των πραγματων, και το τελος αυ-
" των ατεμαρτον και αχρηστον, εργω μηδενι προδηλω
" και λογω σαφει βεβαιεμενον."

Audite atque animis hæc figite dicta, quæ de re grandi et maximi momenti doctissimus homo disseruit.

" Allez, vous êtes un impertinent, mon a-
" mi, un homme ignare de toute bonne dis-
" cipline, bannissable de la republique des
" lettres. Oui, je te soutiendrai par vives rai-
" sons, je te montrerai par Aristote, le philo-
" sophe des philosophes, que tu es un ignorant,
" ignorantissime, ignorantifant et ignorantifié,
" par tous les cas et modes imaginables. Tu
" te veux meler de raisonner, et tu ne sais pas
" seulement les elemens de la raison. C'est
" une proposition condamnable dans toutes
" les terres de la philosophie. Toto cælo tota
" viâ aborras. Sais-tu bien ce que tu as fait?
" un syllogisme in balordo. Le Majeure en
" est inepte, la mineure impertinente, et la

" conclusion ridicule. Je creverois plutot que
" d'avouer ce que tu dis, et je soutiendrai mon
" opinion jusqu' a la derniere goute de mon en-
" cre. Oui, je défendrai cette proposition,
" pugnis et calcibus, anguibus et rostro. Un
" ignorant m' a voulu soutenir une proposi-
" tion erronée : une proposition épouvantable,
" effroisable, execrable. Tout est renversè
" ausjourd'hui, et le monde est tombé dans
" une corruption generale. Une licence epou-
" vantable regne par tout, et les magistrats,
" qui sont etablis pour maintenir l'ordre dans
" cet etat, devroient mourir de honte, en souf-
" frant un scandale aussi intolerable que celui
" dont je veux parler. N'est-ce pas une chose
" horrible, une chose qui crie vengeance au
" ciel, que d' endurer qu' on dise publique-
" ment la forme d'un chapeau ! Je soutiens
" qu' il faut dire la figure d'un chapeau, et non
" pas la forme ; d' autant qu'il y a cette dif-
" ference entre la forme et la figure, que la
" forme est la disposition exterieure des corps
" qui sont animez ; et la figure, la disposition

"exterieure des corps qui sont animez; et "puisque le chapeau est un corps inanime, "il faut dire la figure d'un chapeau, et non "pas la forme; oui, ignorant qui vous etes, "c'est ainsi qu'il faut parler, et ces sont les "termes exprés d' Aristote dans le chapitre de "la qualitê."

Me cupide reprehensionis torvitatem et immitis severitatis duritiem sumpsisse quibusdam videatur; sed non ita fit, "far pleasanter to "me is the language of commendation than "the tone of censure. I wish to expatiate "freely, when I can, in the groves and in the "retreats of the wise, the virtuous, and the "eminent, with philosophers, and stastemen, "and poets, and historians, and orators of "higher fame. I love the regions of the "morning and the light of the sun;

"Οθι τ Ηȣς ηριγενειας
"Οικια και χοροι εισι, και αντολαι ηελιοιο."

Sed stultitiam fugare, et vitium castigare evertere vox blandiloquentiæ ne quidem adaptata est: "At an hour like this, are we to "stand in consultation on the remedy, when "not only the disease is ascertained, but the "very stage of the disease and its specific "symptoms? Are we to spare the sharpest "instruments of authority and of censure "when mèdical establishments are gangrened "in the life organs?" Si hæe non admittetur excusatio nil quidem valeo ulterius, "I pray "you bear with my infirmity."

"———e'est mon defaut, je ne saurois flatter.
"Je ne sais point au ciel placer un ridicule,
"D'un Nain faire un Atlas, ou d'un lache un Hercule,
"Et sans cesse en esclave a la suite des grands,
"A des Dieux sans vertu prodiguer mons encens.
"Pour un si bas emploi ma plume est trop altiere.
"Je suis rustique et fier, et j'ai l 'ame grossiere.
"Je ne puis rien nommer, si ce n'est par son nom.
"J'appelle un chat un chat, et Rolet un fripon."

Resfactus igitur tantum enumerabo, et ab iis pauca deducam consectaria, quæ, ut spero, necessitatem imaginationis ægrotorum observandæ mons arent; et, sub morbo laborantium tractandorum, sicut nimis est multis mos, quasi

machinæ re vera essent, et vasa ænea, quæ medicaminibus replenda forent, aut a medicamentis deplenda essent, et reparanda quacunque rima aut ruptura appareret, secundum sapientiæ doctoris magnitudinem, sine unquam cogitando mentem existere in illo corpore, quod quam celerrime deponere festinant "in the vault "of all the Capulets," absurditatem docerent. In primis medicinæ temporibus, priusquam utilitatem multorum medicamentorum experientia monstraverat et confirmaverat, in imaginationem actio in multis, ne ut dicam plurimis, morbis præcipuum fuit curationis instrumentum; ut ab incantationibus, et carminibus, et magicis ritubus, tunc sæpissimè valentibus, probatur: ad quem poeta morem alludit, cum dicit,

"Semivir, obsœno facies, reverenda minori
"Mollia qui rupta secuit genitalia testa;
"Grande sonat, metuique jubet Septembris, et Austri
"Adventum, nisi se centum lustraverit ovis,
"Et exerram pelinas veteres donaverit ipsi;
"Ut quicquid subite et magni discriminis instat,
"In tunicas eat, et totum semel expiet annum.
"Hybernum fracta glacie descendet in amnem,
"Ter matutino Tiberi mergeter, et ipsis
"Vorticibus timidum caput abluet. Inde superbi

"Totum regis agrum, nuda ac tremebunda cruentis
"Erepet genibus. Si candida jusserit Io
"Ibit ad Ægypti finem, calidaque petitas
"A Meroe portabit aquas, ut spargat in æde
"Isidis, antiquo quæ proxima surgit ovili."

Certe, liceat concedere veris, hàs ineptias mordet Horatius, cum clamat,

"Jupiter ingentes, qui das, adimisque dolores,
"Mater ait pueri, menses jam quinque cubantis,
"Frigida si puerum quartana reliquerit, illo
"Mane die, quo tu indicis jejunia, nudus
"In Tiberi stabit; casus, medicusve levarit
"Ægrum ex præcipiti; mater delira necabit
"In gelida fixum ripa, febrimque reducet,
"Quone malo mentem concussa? timore deorum."

Ast ipse derisus ineptiæ hujus quod maxima spes et fiducia in imaginationem gerendo, ut morbos fugarent, habebantur, ostendit; quid enim sacerdoti panniculorum donatio, in manus et genua reptatio, in honore deæ templorum erectio, cum decem mille aliis ineptiis, nisi ab agendo in imaginationem, valeant? Multi,

proculdubio, ab imaginationem agendis præscriptionibus occisi sunt; sed utrum ægroti sanati sunt; sive in æternum somnum conducti fuerunt, nil meam torquet quæstionem, quæ, ut recta imaginationis gubernatio multum in morbis valet curandis, demonstrare exoptat. Et ut hoc sciamus et ut potens medendi methodus foret credamus, cum tantum de potestate super corpus imaginationis cogitamus, facile patebit. "Those effects, which are "wrought by the percussion of the sense, and "by things in fact, are produced, likewise, in "some degree, by the imagination. There-"fore, if a man see another eat sour, or acid "things, which set the teeth on edge, this ob-"ject tainteth the imagination. So that he "that seeth the thing done by another, hath "his own teeth also set on edge. So if a man "see another turn swiftly and long; or if he "look upon wheels that turn, himself waxeth "turn-sick. So if a man be upon an high "place without rails, or good hold, except he "be used to it, he is ready to fall: for imagi-

" ning a fall, it putteth his spirits into the very
" action of a fall. So many upon the seeing
" of others bleed, or strangled, or tortured,
" themselves are ready to faint, as if they
" bled, or were in strife. Men are to be ad-
" monished, that they do not easily give place
" to these operations, because they succeed
" many times; for the cause of this success is
" oft to be truly ascribed unto the force of af-
" fection and imagination upon the body a-
" gent; and, then, by a secondary means, it
" may work upon a diverse body; as, for ex-
" ample, if a man carry a planet's seal, or a
" ring, or some part of a beast, believing,
" strongly, that it will help him to obtain his
" love; or to keep him from some danger of
" hurt in fight; or to prevail in a suit, &c. it
" may make him more active and industrious;
" and, again, more confident and persisting,
" than otherwise he would be. Now the great
" effects, that may come of industry and per-
" severance, especially in civil business, who
" knoweth not? For we see audacity doth al-

" most blind and mote the weaker sort of " minds; and the state of human actions is so " variable, that to try things oft, and never to " give over, doth wonders; therefore, it were " a mere fallacy and mistaking to ascribe that " to the force of imagination upon another " body, which is but the force of imagination " upon the proper body; for there is no " doubt, but that the imagination and vehe- " ment affection work greatly upon the body " of the imaginant." Nimirum in omnibus ævis hanc potestatem tam bene æstimaverunt homines, ut boni, et pravi ut sua promoverent consilia sese ad factum retulere, sive ut honorem, benevolentiam, et virtutem, vel avaritiam, turpitudinem, et iniquitatem colerent, et proveherent; Ut ne longo sermone tempus morer omnia, nisi quæ ad medicinam pertinent, exempla prætermittam; et in hac arte, ni fallor, magis ad imaginationem quam ad rationem ægrotorum applicatur, testor empiricorum omnis generis successum, a Chevalier Taylor usque ad minimum Brodum, et ne quidem ad in-

feriorem inutilitatis et contemptus ordine gradum descendere possim. In hoc genere animalium omnes ab impudentiæ et ignorantiæ auxilio, sine ulla scientiæ adjuvatione, nam nulla cum illis scientia habitat, in imaginationem faciliter et dextere gerendo; ut bonum producerent exitum confidunt, et recumbunt. Super hoc agit fundamen clemens et benigna domina, quam bene novi, quæ omnes in suâ vicinitate fugat intermittentes in suâ telâ arachnem contusam et involutam, et farina tritici sparsam, et in formâ pilulæ factam adhibendo; hanc pilulam devorant egeni, sese sanaturos esse, quoniam medicamentum a manibus bonæ magistræ acceperunt, credunt, et, reverá sanantur; "possunt quia posse videntur." Cespitem, aliquando, in vicino vertendo cæmeterio, lebetem creta notando, pictum ab orientali ecclesia fenestrâ furœndo vitrum, et, in sinu, panno velatum, gerendo, et a multis aliis medicaminibus æque rationi consentaneis, et similiter scientiæ faventibus, intermittentes removentur. Ast nemo, non etiam de meris et im-

mendabilibus speculatoribus, qui doctrinam de humorum revulsione, de spasmo, de systematis convulsionibus, de derivationibus, et determinationibns, de sympathiis, de vi plasticâ, cum omni futilitate et farragine, quæ fabricant abortum, "which the incubation of heat-"ed dullness upon error could only gene-"rate," evomunt, et effundunt, ut quævis specifica virtus, aut potestas in ecclesiæ fenestra orientali picto vitro, in lebetem cretâ notando, in cæmeterio cespitem vertendo, aut in araneo contuseo et in suâ araneâ involuto, possit existere, audebit affirmare. Propter testimonii amplitudinem et gravitatem quod ab his morbi fugati sunt modis ne quidem dubitare valemus; et quomodo, nisi in imaginationem ægroti agendo, hoc possint perficere? Ad eandem referantur origenem omnis effectus qui orti sunt ab animali vi magneticâ, zonis chalybeis, et metallicis tractoribus, quorum nuperrimè narratos nullum inhærentem possidere virtutem planè demonstravit Haygarth, cujus ostendit libellus, ut similiter, sive Perki-

ni tractoribus, aut cerâ sigillari, aut ligno picto, aut veteris matulæ fragmentis, usi sunt medici, ægroti sanabantur. Nec mirum est, ut tanta in morbo afflictis corporibus imaginationem gerendi sit potestas, cum in omnibus ævis ut humani majorem generis partem cohiberent, opprimerent, et in servitutem redigerent iisdem rationibus usi sunt politici et sacerdotes, et scopum obtinuerunt. Ut ad hanc magis, in futuro, intentionis, in medici manibus intelligentis maxima ferentem commoda, potestatem applicaretur valdé optandum est; haud absurdum erit, fortasse, ut a bené dirigendo imaginationem ægrotorum bonos exitus, qui sequerentur, nempè, valetudinis restaurationem, monstrarem, brevem et rapidam effigiem lethalium consectariorum, quæ a modo sei-psos habendi plurimorum medicorum oriuntur in ægrotos, delineare; imo etiam, talia, quæ, sæpissime, prescriptionum, si quando judicii et acuminis redolerent, virtutem inutilem reddere. Dominus Depondens, quem poeta sic descripsit,

" As one deluded long
" By fancy's dazzling optics, he beholds
" The images of peculiar things
" With brighter hues resplendent, and pourtray'd
" With features nobler far than e'er adorn'd
" Their genuine objects; hence his fever'd heart
" Pants with delirious hope for tinsel charms;
" Hence, oft obtrusive on the eye of scorn
" His timeless zeal her witless pride betrays,
" And serious manhood, from the towering aim
" Of wisdom, stoops to emulate the boast
" Of childish toil. Behold his long, lank form,
" Bedeck'd with feathers, insects, weeds and shells!
" Not with intenser view the Samian sage
" Bent his fixt eye on Heav'n's well-marshall'd fires,
" When first the order of that radiant scene
" Swell'd his exulting thought, than his surveys
" A muckworm's entrails, or a spider's fang,
" The gas of paradise, or the dire strontite."

Multo magis damni ab ejus longo, et nigro, et bardo, et tristi aspectu, et solemni, et mœsto, et caliginoso, et terribili habitu creat, quam boni, quod unquam illius ars medicalis perficere poterit. Ægroti cor " to die within him,"

cum hic formidatus accessit doctor sæpe notavi. Pulsum fluctuare et debiliorem fieri, os pallidius esse, oculum languidiorem reddi, labrum tremere, et totum corpus imaginationem sub deprimente hujus lethalis Æsculapiani filii potestate cadentem ostendere sæpissimè vidi. Summo cum dolore, et tristitiâ, et lamentis, et anxietate, et querelis agitatus, haud raro, fui, et vexatus, cum aspiciebam

> " Despair
> " 'Tending the sick, busiest from couch to couch,
> " And over them triumphant Death his dart
> " Shake, nor delay to strike."

Ægrotorum ut in hoc exemplo tam horribiliter afficiebatur imaginatio, ut morbus, aliter sanabilis, mortifer reddebatur, nemo tam audax et impudens erit, ut negaret; et si tales effectus pestiferi ab hac mortis et miseriæ imagine, oriuntur cur non aptè et dexterè mulcendo, et consolando, et attollendo morbo afflictorum

imaginationem optima inducerentur consectaria?

Doctor Dominus Bardus ab impenetrabili aspectûs stupiditate, et rictûs diductione, usu contractâ, quæ angulos oris ad aurem singulam distrahit, et systematicâ scapularum levatione; quæ morbus, qualiscunque sit, esse maximè periculosum innuit, plurimos, qui tam infelices sunt, ut intra vorticem illius usus medicalis includerentur, perdere et destruere comminiscitur. Ægrotis spei radium nunquam injicit; quocunque incedit tenebrosum omne est, et bardum, et deprimens, et ad despondentiam proclive; omnibus suis ægris "hope never "comes, that comes to all." In medici vultu illi suum legunt fatum et inveniunt;

"For this man's brow, like to a title leaf,
"Foretells the nature of a tragic volume;
"So looks the strand, whereon the imperious flood
"Hath left a witness'd usurpation."

Dominus Carnifex pene tota officii intervalla in viventiûm anatomiâ animalium consumit, ut motûm intestinorum vermicularem, et in costas cordis saltum aspiceret; et harmoniam, et melodiam, quæ ab ululatibus, et ejulationibus scissorum, mutilatorum, mancorum, et morientium oriuntur, audiret et acciperet!

"O proceres, censore opus est, an haruspice nobis!
"Scilicet horreres, majoraque monstra putares,
"Si mulier vitulum, vel si bos ederet agnum?"

Ah hoc, tam clementi, et amabili modo, et habitu, tamferum, et agrestem, et crudelem obtinuit gestum, ut ægroti seipsos, quam celerrimè, trucidari putant; "nec male conjectant," brevissimo enim temporis spatio validitatem conjecturæ hic, dignus monumento, doctor demonstrat.

Dominus Circe, qui hæc monita, haud moræ enumeranda, audirit, miratus est, et secutus,

"If the teacher happens to be a man of "sense, it must be an unpleasant thing to him "to be conscious, while he is lecturing his "students, that he is either speaking or read- "ing nonsense, or what is very little better "than nonsense. It must, too, be unpleasant "to him to observe that the greater part of "his students desert his lectures; or, perhaps, "attend upon them with plain enough marks "of neglect, contempt, and derision. If he is "obliged, therefore, to give a certain number "of lectures, these motives, alone, without "any other interest, might dispose him to take "pains to give tolerably good ones. Several "different expedients, however, may be fallen "upon, which will effectually blunt the edge "of all those incitements to diligence. The "teacher, instead of explaining to his pupils "himself, the science in which he proposes to "instruct them, may read some book upon it; "and, if this book is written in a foreign and "dead language, by interpreting it to them in- "to their own; and, by now and then ma-

" king an occasional remark upon it, he may " flatter himself that he is giving a lecture. " The slightest degree of knowledge and appli- " cation will enable him to do this, without ex- " posing himself to contempt or derision, or " saying any thing that is really foolish, ab- " surd, or ridiculous. The discipline of the " college, at the same time, may enable him " to force all his pupils to the most regular " attendance upon this sham-lecture, and " to maintain the most decent and respectful " behaviour during the whole time of the per- " formance."

Asperitatem habitûs incautam, et rusticitatem sermonis non tolerandam præ se fert, et jactat ·

" Asperitas agrestis, et inconcinna, gravisque
" Quæ se commendat tonsâ cute, dentibus atris,
" Dum vult libertas dici mera, veraque virtus :"

At omnino nescit quod

"Virtus est medium vitiorum, in utrinque "reductum". Ingenia deprimit hic ægrotorum mos, et morbum, antea lenem, sæpissimè, insanabilem reddit, in imaginationem fastidium, et aversationem, et odium, et horrorem inducendo. In omnibus his exemplis imaginationem cruciandi ægrotorum videbantur mali effectus, quod in manibus medici ad imaginationem applicationem potens esse instrumentum demonstrat. "I now turn, with joy and with delight "from a barren and dreary moor, where no ver- "dure thickens, no vegetation springs, to a fair, "and rich, and champain country, fertile in e- "very good and precious production." Dominus Bourdeau, si rectè nomen memini, sed nil refert de nomine si res tantum sit exacta, fuit "Ιατρικωτατος, φιλοδωρος και αδωροκητος, φιλοπ- "τωχος, γενναιος, νεων διορθωτης, ὁσιος, δικαιος, ευ- "σεβης, εις ακρον της παιδειας εληλακως." Imaginationem ægrorum gerendi necessitatem tam benè sciebat, ac maximum ad valetudinem restaurandam gradum, ut maximè diligenter eo-

rum mores, et mentis habitus observavit, et investigavit, ut rebus existentibus suam methodum adaptaret; et in illius inceptis tam felix fuit, ut vix unquam vidit ægrotum, quem non meliorem, quam invenit, reliquit; omninò, prudenti modo in habitu, in colloquio, in angorem spiritûs contusi mulcendo, mæstos levando, vehementes temperando et placando, pacem afflictis loquendo et inducendo, etc. etc. Undé horam adventus hujus honorandi medici expectaverunt ægroti cum summâ spe, et gaudio, et desiderio; et cum gratis animis, et benedictionibus dimiserunt. Cito, nimis cito, plenus honore, sed non annis, implevit cursum, et sepulcrum ingressus est. Nunquam ægros medicamentis oneravit et oppressit, aut in alium mundum cum pharmacopolæ officinâ in ventre eorum misit; sanguinem raró, et parcâ manu, detraxit; diligénter a salute aberrationem observavit, generaliter, sine seipsum coercendo, et ægrotos in periculum mortis ducendo, ad sempiternum barditatis et nosologiæ circulum stu-

pié inclinando. In lecto inopinato mortuus est, dum dormiebat; et lepidi homines Parisiani dixerunt," quod Mors nequidem Bourdeau vigilantem aggredi ausa est, et, idcirco, dormientem prehendit. " Οι τη τονδε μετιοντες τον τροπον, " φρονηματι την ψυχην εις ȣρανον μετενηνεγμενοι, ὁια " τινες θεοι, τον των παντων εφορωσι βιον, ὁπερ τȣ " παντος γενȣς ιερωμενοι τω επι παντων θεω, ψυχης " δια θεσει κεκαθαρμενης, ορθοις δογμασιν αληθȣς " ευσεβειας, και τοις κατ' αρετην εργοις τε και λογοις, " ὁις το θειον εξιλεȣμενοι, την υπερ σφων αυτων, και " των σφισιν ὁμογενων αποτελȣσιν ιερȣργιαν." De tali homine mihi dicere liceat? " Ταυτα παντα " λογισμω λαβων, ησυχιαν εχων και τα αυτȣ πραττων, " οιον ενχειμωνι κονιορτȣ και ζαλης υπο πνευματος " φερομενȣ υπο τειχεον υποςας, ορωντες αλλȣς καταπιμ-" πλαμενȣς ανομιας, αγαπη ει πη αυτος καθαρος " αδικιας τε και αγοσιων εργων, τον τε ενθαδε βιον " βιωσεται, και την απαλλαγην αυτȣ μετα καλης " ελπιδος ἱλεως τεκαι ευμενης απαλλαξεται." Ast etiamsi ab hoc mundo abfuit, et discessit, tamen memoria ejus non periit; adhuc in recordatione omnium bonorum et sapientum vivit

hominum, et in æternum vivet, "το γαρ γερας "εςι θανοντων."

"Ευδεις! αλλ' ε Σειο λελασμενοι εσμεν Αχιλλευ;
"Ου μεν Σε ζωοντος ακηδεες, εδε θανοντος."
"Τον μεν θανοντ' Αοιδαι
"Ελιποντ' αλλαοι
"Παρα τε πυραν ταφον
"Θ' Ελικωνιαι παρθενοι
"Εςαν, επι θρηνον τη πολυφαμον εχευαν. Εδοξεν
"Αρα γ' Αθανατοις
"Εσλον γε φωτα και φθιμενον μοιραις θεαν διδομεν."

Ut magis utilitatis orrinetur si thesii super hoc argumentum scriberem putavi, quam de quovis morbo nihil nisi antea dictum admittente, disceptaciunculam edidissem; tunc, enim, a plurimis libellis totam seriem causarum remotarum, proximarum, prædisponentium, symptomatum, et methodi medendi, et nescio quid, multum perlegere et colligere coactus forem, ut homo abnormis et sapiens de illa diceret, "hic liber est conglutinatus ex tam multis libris,

"quot unus pinguis cocus, oves, boves, sues, grues, "anseres, passeres, coquere, aut unus fumosus "calefactor centum magna hispocausta ex illis "calefacere possit," et multo magis commodi, ni fallor, orietur, quam si de quâvis profundâ speculatione, ut de materie vĭtæ, caloris naturâ, sympathiæ varietatibus, plasticâ secretionis potestate, vis qualitate insitæ, cum multis aliis niquisitionîbus, æquè jucundis, et similitèr idoneis, tractassem; ast hæ fabulæ aniles, hæ difficiles nugæ, hi labores ineptiarum, in contemptum medicinam attulerunt, et pro ludibrio ejus suspenderunt professores; sed nunc, spero, et credo, adest hora, in quâ hæc omnia evanescent, hanc enim in barditatem pestiferam publicæ vox indignationis levata est, et derisûs ex clamatio per orbem transivit; tenebras, et caligines, quibus, adhuc, medicinam, scientiarum, principem, obnubilavere fatuitas et error, ut fugaret scientia accedit.

"Οιον ὁτω 'πολλωνος εσεισατο δαφνιδος ορπηξ!
"Οια δολον το μελαθρον! εκας, εκας οςις αλιτρος.
"Και δη πȣ τα θυρετρα καλω ποδι Φοιβος αρασσει."

" The profession of physic is one of the most " liberal and useful; it has a connection with " learning and science of every kind; it has " great opportunities of adding to the common " stores of knowledge, and should be particu- " larly conversant in elegant letters; without " the aid of which, it can neither use its best " sources, nor communicate its discoveries with " any advantage. But the medical character " is degraded, by an exclusive love of the more " trifling pursuits of learning, which many pride " themselves upon, though they are but little " conducive to mental improvement. I mean " some parts of Virtu, a smattering of botany, " playing tricks with an electrical apparatus, " &c. For a physician may be very fond of " coins, shells, moths, or mosses, and be able " to whirl a glass globe, and to tell the Gothic " names of a few plants, to the admiration of " the ignorant, and, at the same time, possess " a mind very illiberal and unenlightened. Let " those things be attended to afterwards, and " seriously. But they will not supply the place

" of a classical and scientific foundation. Many " vain persons shine among the illiterate, mere- " ly, by possessing an electrical machine, or " learning by rote a few words in Linnæus;

" Who aye pretending love of science fair
" And generous purpose, to adorn the breast
" With liberal arts, to virtue's court repair,
" Yet nought but tunes, and names, and coins away do bear."

" We see that the science of medicine, if it " be destitute and forsaken by natural philo- " sophy, is not much better than an empirical " practice. But, that I might note a few of " the causes which have retarded the improve- " ment of medicine, the variable composition " of man's body, hath made it as an instru- " ment easy to distemper; so then, the sub- " ject, being so variable, hath made the art, " by consequence, more conjectural; and the " art being conjectural, hath left so much the " more place for imposture. For almost all " other arts and sciences are judged by acts or " master-pieces, and not by the successes and

" events. The lawyer is judged by the virtue
" of his pleading, and not by the issue of the
" cause. The master of the ship is judged by
" the directing his course aright, and not by
" the fortune of the voyage. But the physi-
" cian, and perhaps the politician, hath no
" particular acts demonstrative of his ability,
" but is judged most by the event; which is
" ever but as it is taken; for, who can tell if
" a patient die or recover? or, if a state be
" preserved or ruined, whether it be art or ac-
" cident? And, therefore, many times, the
" impostor is prized, and the man of virtue
" is taxed. Nay, we see the weakness, and
" credulity of men is such, as they will often
" prefer a mountebank, or witch, before a
" learned physician. For, in all times, in the
" opinion of the multitude, witches and old
" women, and impostors, have had a com-
" petition with physicians. And what fol-
" loweth? even this; that physicians say to
" themselves, as Solomon expresseth it upon
" an higher occasion; 'if it befalleth to me,

"as befalleth to fools, why should I labour to "be more wise?' and, therefore, I cannot much "blame physicians, that they use, commonly, "to intend some other art or practice, which "they fancy more than their profession. For "you shall have of them, antiquaries, poets, "humanists, statesmen, merchants, divines, "and in every of these better seen than in "their profession; and, no doubt, upon this "ground, that they find that mediocrity and "excellence in their art, maketh no difference "in profit or reputation towards their fortune; "for the weakness of patients, and sweetness "of life, and nature of hope, maketh men de-"pend upon physicians with all their defects. "So that medicine is a science, which hath "been more professed than laboured, and yet "more laboured than advanced; the labour "having been rather in circle than in pro-"gression."

Ast hæc reprehensio, forsan, si Bruno, immortalis Bruno, in illis diebus vixisset, nun-

quam edita fuisset: si in dissertatione, ad rem medicam pertinente, de inæstimabilibus, huic arti beneficiis a Brunone tributis silerem, ne quidem veniâ dignus forem: vide libellum, cui nomen est, anglicé. "*The adventures of the* "*Adviser*. Let it be recorded in never dying "characters, to the eternal dishonour and dis-"grace, and shame, and infamy of the pro-"fessors of the University of ---------, that "they have, uniformly and systematically, en-"deavoured to stifle and suppress the doctrines "and the precepts of the immortal Brown, a "man, who, going forth in the greatness of "his power, and rising in the mightiness of "his strength, shook from off him, 'like dew-"drops from a lion's mane,' all the incum-"brances, and impediments, and obstacles, "of the dull, and drivelling, and stupid, and "absurd, and petty, and prejudiced, and bi-"gotted, and shallow, and confined, and sense-"less jargon, and reverie, and doubt, and un-"certainty, and dreams, and speculation, and "theory, and conjecture, which had, hitherto,

" degraded and dishonoured, and debased, and " deteriorated, and crippled, and swathed, and " circumscribed, and fettered, and bondaged, " and retarded, and obumbrated the study of " medicine.

" Never was such a sudden scholar made,
" Never came reformation in a flood
" With such a heady current, scowring faults.
" Turn him to any case of medicine,
" The Gordian knot of it he would unloose,
" Familiar as his garter; that, when he spake,
" The air a charter'd libertine was still;
" And the mute wonder lurked in men's ears,
" To steal his sweet and honeyed sentences;
" So that the art and practic part of life
" Must be the mistress to this theorick."

I do not wonder, that, during his life, the wretches, overawed, and dismayed, and terrified, and maddened by the painful superiority of his genius, refused to receive, and to respect, and to honour, and to bow down to his system, because, as we well know, the blaze of

living merit cannot be borne by the blinking owls of envy, of ignorance, and of malignity;

> " Urit enim fulgore suo, qui prægravat artes
> " Infra se positas."

Why am I not allowed to proceed, and say,

> " Extinctus amabitur idem?"

I will readily grant, that, during the period of his existence here on earth, his fiery, and ardent, and impetuous spirit, proud, and sullen and indignant, and full of his wrongs, burst asunder the bonds of frigid caution, and of timid circumspection, and disdaining prevarication, and scorning to stoop to dissimulation, at once threw down the gauntlet of defiance to his antagonists, and challenged them to the contest; I will allow, that his speeches and replies, and lectures delivered in public companies, and in his class-room, created him enemies, and forbade the reception of his sentiments while he lived, and the human passions could not sepa-

rate the man from the doctrine. I will admit, that those who had been galled, and lashed, and agonised, and tortured by the irresistible keenness, and smartness, and sting, and force of his irony, and banter, and sarcasm, and indignation, would, to the utmost of their power, prevent his advancement. In a hackneyed, and systematised, and slavish, and submissive, and routine-following school, he was not likely to make his way, who could thus reply, in answer to a pitiful reproach made by old Down; for old Down forgot, or never knew, that

> " From lowest place when virtuous things proceed,
> " The place is dignified by the doer's deed;"

Who objected it to him, as a crime, that he was once a weaver! " True, and I am now a phy-
" sician; but had old Down ever been a wea-
" ver, he would have been a weaver still;" who could say, in a public course of prælections, that it would be adviseable, in some disorders, where sleep was requisite, but not rea-

dily induced, to procure drowsiness and slumbers, by reading to the patient some very stupid book, such as the Cónfession of Faith, or Dr Down's Lectures ; who could, also, in his class-room, declare, that, than Cullen's doctrine of spasm, so much extolled and vaunted of in the University of Edinburgh, nothing was more stupid, silly, absurd, senseless, and inconceivably dull, in the whole range of intellect, in the vast catenation of mind, from the first link to the last, from God Almighty down to Andrew Down. These ebullitions of imagination were not calculated to promote his interest; and still less so were the indiscretions, which his temper, hurt and soured, and deranged by disappointment, by mortification, and by persecution, hurried him into. I wish not to dwell upon this painful picture; I would only observe, " That the want of discretion and prudence, has ruined more men of " learning and of genius, than the time would " allow me to mention." Without this sobriety of intellect, nothing is strong, no-

thing is great; without this prudence, without this discernment of time and of circumstance, and the habit of regularity; without an attention to the decency of society, and of common life, and of the principles by which all men, however gifted, must indiscriminately be conducted, all our attainments are nothing worth; they will never procure us esteem, nor respectability among men. Let it never be forgotten by those, who, in confidence of superior capacities or attainments, disregard the common maxims of life, that nothing will supply the want of prudence, and that negligence and irregularity, long continued, will make knowledge useless, wit ridiculous, and genius contemptible: but

> " He lives no more, be to his memory just,
> " For British vengeance wars not with the dust;
> " A generous foe regards, with pitying eye,
> " The man, whom fate has laid where all must lie."

Peace be to his ashes! and ye, who trembled at the living lion, rear with fostering hand his royal progeny!

For a most able explanation of the Brunonian System, see " An Enquiry into the State " of Medicine, on the Principles of Inductive " Philosophy; by Robert Jones, M. D. Edin- " burgh. Printed for T. Cadell, and T. Long- " man, London; and C. Elliot, Edinburgh, " 1781." It is much to be wished, that another edition of this book may be published, in which may be left out all the party-abuse and petty personality, which, being local and temporary, now no longer interest; " they have " fretted, and strutted their hour upon the " stage, and should now be heard no more." Divested of its asperity, and retaining only the scientific part, it would be a most valuable present to every thinking and every reasoning mind. While other universities, by adopting this system, are reducing the study of medicine to a philosophical science, the Edinburgh school, by obstinately shutting its eyes against the light, and treading in the eternal and endless round of nonsense and nosology, is degrading it to a mechanical art, and a dirty trade.

"These nosological works necessarily suppose "that, which has never been, by considering "diseases as being absolutely different in their "kinds; and the semeiology, which is the part "we require as our guide in these details, is "so badly described, and so superficially ana-"lysed, that the unlearned can draw no im-"mediate advantages from them; and he, "who is well instructed, hath no occasion for "them." And yet, so irresistible is the force of this doctrine, that two professors, Carnifex and Disaster, with the most unblushing impudence and effrontery, combined with the greatest ignorance and absurdity, have nibbled off, bit by bit, and stole a portion of this invaluable treasure, and adopted as their own the learned investigations of one "whose system "they condemned, or rather damned:

"To his unguarded nest these weasel doctors
"Came sneaking, and so sucked his princely eggs."

"While malice, Brown, denies thy page
"Its own celestial fire,

"While blockheads, and while fools, in rage,
"Admiring, wont admire.

"While wayward pens thy worth assail,
"And envious tongues decry;
"These times doth many a friend bewail,
"And so bewail must I.

"But when the world's loud praise is thine,
"And spleen no more shall blame,
"When, aye, thy glory full shall shine
"In one unclouded flame;

"When none shall rail, and many a lay
"Devote a wreath to thee;
"That day, for come it will, that day
"Shall I rejoice to see."

It is in vain to strive against the current; the voice of reason and of truth is omnipotent, and will prevail: these men have, hitherto, contrived to obscure the splendor, and to tarnish the lustre of this doctrine, by confounding and blending it with the theories, and dreams,

and speculations, which have, heretofore, defiled the page of medicine: but distant as is the blaze of the meridian sun from the darkness of the western gloom, is this system separate and distinct from all the useless and unsatisfactory jargon, called theory, which has preceded it. It, like the Newtonian philosophy, is built upon the immutable and eternal principles of reason and of truth, and, like it, founded on the rock of ages, will endure, till

"The cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces,
"The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
"Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve,
"And, like the baseless fabric of a vision,
"Leave not a rack behind."

Me, nequaquam, ab aliquibus verbis quæ edixi, ullum odium in medicinam, aut in studium medicinæ, rectè conductum, injicere tentasse facilè videbitur; longè a me et ab amicis longè meis talis impudens stultitia, et insania

tam nocens absint: In honore habeo, et maximè colo, et miror eam vocationem, cujus scopus, et solum est tentamen, miserorum tristitiam levare, et viam eorum, quorum morbi sunt insanabiles, levem reddere et jucundam, donec visant regnum, " where the wicked " cease from troubling, and the weary are at " rest." Laude et honore et admiratione digniorem nescio personam, quam medicum, qui suam literarum studiis et scientiæ vitam dedit; qui rationem et philosiphicam investigationem sui usus medicalis fundamina ponit; et super artes vaframenti minutas, et fraudis et deceptionis et insidiarum et adulationis iniquitatem sese attollens, aliis cum commodo, et sibi-ipsi cum honore cursum illius dirigit, donec gloriæ coronam gerens, atque hominum benedictiones merens et possidens ad habitationes felicitatis æternæ volitat. Pro dictione hujus theseos, forsan, aliqua necessaria videretur apologia, quoniam nequidem numerosæ periodi clausuræ harmoniam, nec metaphoræ splendorem, nec imaginum varietatem jactare potest.

"Vicinas alii Veneres, Charitumque choreas
"Carmine concelebrent; nos Veri dogma severum,
"Triste sonant pulsæ nostra testudine chordæ."

"Finalmente esperamos merecer al publico "alguna consideracion en recompensa de lo que "hemos trabajado en su servicio, y que los de- "fectos del estilo tengan la disculpa de que no "puede un indocto et ignorante passar por ora- "dor, ni aspiràr à numerarse en la classe de "los buenos y grandes escritores.

"Desocupado letor, sin juramento, me "podràs creer, que quisiera que este libro como "hijo del entendimiento, fuera el mas hermoso, "el mas gallardo, y mas discreto, que pudiera "imaginarse. Pero no he podido yo contrave- "nir la orden de la naturaleza, que en ella, "cada cosa engendra su semejante. Y assi "que podiar engendrar el esteril y mae culti- "vado ingenio mio, sino la historia de un hijo "seco, avellanado, antojadizo, y eleno de

" pensamientos varios, y nunca imaginados de
" otro alguno: bien como quien se engendro
" en una cividad donde toda incommodidad tiene
" su assiento, y todo triste ruydo haze su ha-
" bitacion? El sossiego, el lugar apacibile, la
" amenidad de los campos, la serenidad de los
" cielos, el murmurar de las fuentes, la quie-
" tud del espiritu, son grande parte para que
" las musas mas esteriles, se muestren fecun-
" das, y ofrezcanpartos al mundo que le colme
" de maravilla, y de contento. Acontece tener
" un padre un hijo feo, y sin gracia alguna, y el
" amor que le tiene, le pone una venda en los
" ojos, para que no vea sus faltes; antes las juzga
" poı discreciones, y lindezas, y las cuenta a
" sus amigos, por agudezas y donayres. Pero
" yo que aunque parezio padre, soy padrasto
" de esta obra; no quiera yrme con la corri-
" ente del uso, ni supplicarte casi con las lag-
" rimas en los ojos, como otros hazen, letor mio,
" que perdones ò dissimules, las faltas, que en
" este mi hijo vieres; y ni eres su pariente,

" ni su amigo, y tienes tu alma en tu cuerpo,
" y tu libre alvedrio, como el mas piutado,
" y estas en tu casa, donde eres senor della
" como el rey de sus alcavalas, y sabes lo que
" communmente se dize, que debaxo de mi
" manto al rey mato. Todo lo qual te essenta
" y haze libre de todo respeto y obligacion;
" y assi puedes dezir de esta obra, todo a-
" quello que te pareciere, sin temor que calu-
" niē por el mal, ni te premien por el biē que
" dezieres della."

Ast ut honestas intentionis, et conamen, quamvis jejunum et leve, medicorum attentionem vocare ut considerarent quomodo mentem ægrotorum optimè dirigerent, et rectè imaginationem gerendo, corporis et intellectûs potestates et facultates ad unum ducerent punctum, nempè, ad levandos a lecto morbi ægros et ad vitam et valetudinem restaurandos, errores et culpas hujus disceptaciunculæ excusarent spero et confido. In hac spe, et in hac fiduciâ re-

cumbo, et in clementiam investigatoris meipsum pono, in verbis antiqui philosophiam colentis.

"Υμεις ω παντα εν πασι φυσει και παιδεια χρηο-
"τοι, και μετριοι, και φιλανθρωποι, και της βασι,
"λειας αξιοι, τȣτοις τοις λογοις ἐπινυεσατε."

FINIS.